

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KATHMA 04265 111115Z

15

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 DRC-01 /119 W

----- 073111

R 111040Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6539

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KATHMANDU 4265

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: NP, IN, PFOR

SUBJECT: NEPALESE KING'S STATE VISIT TO INDIA

SUMMARY: ON EVE OF BIRENDRA'S STATE VISIT TO INDIA, OFFICIAL PRESS AND KING HIMSELF ARE STRESSING POSITIVE ASPECTS INDO-NEPALESE RELATIONS. HIS SCHEDULE ALLOWS FOR ONLY TWO DAYS IN DELHI, AND SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES WILL PROBABLY NOT BE EXTENSIVELY DEALT WITH. HOWEVER, SENSITIVE AND NATIONALISTIC YOUNG MONARCH MAY WELL RAISE SOME PRICKLY ISSUES AND IF NOT REINED IN BY HIS SENIOR ADVISORS, MAY RUFFLE SOME INDIAN FEATHERS. END SUMMARY.

1. ON EVE OCTOBER 12 DEPARTURE FOR WEEK LONG STATE VISIT TO INDIA, KING BIRENDRA AND SEMI-OFFICIAL PRESS ARE STRESSING POSITIVE ASPECTS INDO-NEPALESE RELATIONS. OCTOBER 9 BIRENDRA GRANTED AUDIENCE TO 12 REPRESENTATIVES LEADING INDIAN MEDIA, WHO MADE TWO-DAY VISIT SPECIFICALLY TO HELP PAVE THE WAY FOR BIRENDRA'S VISIT. WE HAVE NOT YET SEEN EXTENSIVE FEED-BACK, BUT ACCORDING LIMITED LOCAL COVERAGE KING'S MAIN THEME WAS THAT INDO-NEPALESE RELATIONS SHOULD BE CONDUCTED ON "MATURE AND SOBER" BASIS. RISING NEPAL EDITORIALY INTERPRETED THIS TO MEAN "CAREFUL HANDLING OF THE SENTIMENTAL OVERTONES THAT PERSIST IN

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KATHMA 04265 111115Z

NEPAL-INDIAN RELATIONS THAT ARE LIKELY TO LEAD TO APRIORI

ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT EACH OTHER'S INTENTIONS OR MOTIVES" AND
"WILLINGNESS ON BOTH SIDES TO UNDERSTAND ONE ANOTHER'S
PROBLEMS AND POINTS OF VIEW AND MAKE ADEQUATE AND FLEXIBLE
ALLOWANCES FOR THESE; WHAT IS DEFINITELY RULED OUT IS ANY
TENDENCY ON EITHER SIDE TO TAKE THE OTHER FOR GRANTED."
TWO DAYS RUNNING RISING NEPAL HAS CARRIED FEATURE ARTICLES
HIGH-LIGHTING FAVORABLE ASPECTS INDO-NEPALESE RELATIONS.

2. IN ADDITION, DURING OCTOBER 9 INTERVIEW KING SAID
NEPAL HAD NO SERIOUS PROBLEMS WITH INDIA. COMMENTING
ON 1971 TRADE AND TRANSIT AGREEMENT WITH GOI HE SAID IT
HAD BEEN WORKING SATISFACTORILY BUT WOULD HAVE TO
"CHANGE IN THE LIGHT OF CHANGING CONDITIONS AND REQUIRE-
MENTS." ALLUDING TO JUNE 10 RNAC HIGHJACKING, HE
CHARACTERIZED IT AS "PURELY A CRIMINAL INDICENT."

3. COMMENT: WE UNDERSTAND KING'S SENIOR ADVISORS ARE
ATTEMPTING RESTRAIN HIM FROM RAISING SENSITIVE ISSUES
WHICH MIGHT RUFFLE INDIAN FEATHERS (SUCH AS CONTINUED
PRESENCE NCP LEADERS AND FACILITIES ON INDIAN TERRITORY),
WHILE YOUNGER INDOPHOBE MEMBERS OF ENTOURAGE (NOTABLY
CHIRAN S. THAPA) ARE GOADING HIM ON. SCHEDULE ALLOWS FOR ONLY
TWO DAYS DELHI, REMAINDER OF TIME WILL BE SPENT TOURING
IMPORTANT DEVELOPMENTS, RELIGIOUS AND HISTORICAL SITES. SINCE
THIS IS NOT ONLY BIRENDRA'S FIRST STATE VISIT SINCE ACCESSION,
BUT ALSO HIS FIRST PROLONGED STAY IN INDIA (SINCE PERIOD
OF HIS SCHOOLING IN DARJEELING) TOURIST AND CEREMONIAL
ASPECTS OF VISIT WILL PROBABLY PREDOMINATE. NONETHELESS,
KING MAY RAISE NUMBER OF SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES IN HIS CONVERSATIONS
WITH MRS. GANDHI, EVEN AT RISK OF SOMEWHAT DIMINISHING GENERALLY
POSITIVE TONE UNDER WHICH VISIT BEING LAUNCHED.
CARGO

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973KATHMA04265
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS CARGO
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: KATHMANDU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731039/aaaabchf.tel
Line Count: 93
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Dec-2001 by martinml>; APPROVED <10-Jan-2002 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEPALESE KING'S STATE VISIT TO INDIA SUMMARY: ON EVE OF BIRENDRA'S STATE VISIT TO INDIA
TAGS: PFOR, NP, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005